

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of treating anxiety or insomnia in a patient comprising administering a therapeutic amount of ~~an alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam or triazolam~~ a drug condensation aerosol to the patient by inhalation,

wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam and triazolam, and

wherein the condensation aerosol is formed by heating a thin layer containing the drug, on a solid support, to produce a vapor of the drug, and condensing the vapor to form a condensation aerosol characterized by less than 10% drug degradation products by weight, and having an MMAD of less than 5 microns. 3- μ m and less than 5% alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam or triazolam degradation products, to a patient by inhalation, upon activation by the patient of the formation of, and delivery of, the condensation aerosol.

2. (currently amended) The method ~~of~~ according to claim 1, wherein the condensation aerosol is characterized by an MMAD of less than 3 microns. wherein said condensation aerosol is formed by

a. ~~volatilizing alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam or triazolam under conditions effective to produce a heated vapor of the alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam or triazolam, and~~

b. ~~condensing the heated vapor of the alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam or triazolam to form condensation aerosol particles.~~

3. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the condensation aerosol is formed at a rate greater than 0.5 mg/second.

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the therapeutic amount of ~~alprazolam~~ a drug condensation aerosol comprises between 0.05 mg and 4 mg of alprazolam delivered in a single inspiration.

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the therapeutic amount of ~~estazolam~~ a drug condensation aerosol comprises between 0.05 mg and 4 mg of estazolam delivered in a single inspiration.

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the therapeutic amount of ~~midazolam~~ a drug condensation aerosol comprises between 0.05 mg and 4 mg of midazolam delivered in a single inspiration.

7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the therapeutic amount of ~~triazolam~~ a drug condensation aerosol comprises between 0.006 mg and 0.5 mg of triazolam delivered in a single inspiration.

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein ~~said administration results in a peak plasma drug concentration of said alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam or triazolam is reached~~ in less than 0.1 hours.

9. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least 50% by weight of the condensation aerosol is amorphous in form.

10. (currently amended) A method of administering ~~alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam~~ a drug condensation aerosol to a patient to ~~achieve a peak plasma drug concentration rapidly, comprising administering to the patient by inhalation an aerosol of alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam having less than 5% alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam by inhalation,~~

wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam and triazolam, and

wherein the drug condensation aerosol is formed by heating a thin layer containing the drug, on a solid support, to produce a vapor of the drug, and condensing the vapor to form a condensation aerosol characterized by less than 10% drug degradation products by weight, and an MMAD of less than 3 microns 5 microns.

~~wherein the peak plasma drug concentration is achieved in less than 0.1 hours.~~

11. (currently amended) A kit for delivering a drug condensation aerosol comprising:

a) a thin coating of an alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam composition, and layer containing the drug, on a solid support, wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam and triazolam, and

b) a device for providing the condensation aerosol, wherein the condensation aerosol is formed by heating the thin layer to produce a vapor of the drug, and condensing the vapor to form a condensation aerosol characterized by less than 10% drug degradation products by weight, and an

MMAD of less than 5 microns. ~~dispensing said thin coating as a condensation aerosol.~~

12. (currently amended) The kit ~~of~~ according to claim 11, wherein ~~said coating the thin layer~~ has a thickness between ~~0.7-4.8 microns~~ 0.2 and 4.8 microns.

13. (currently amended) The kit ~~of~~ according to claim 11, wherein the device ~~for dispensing said coating as a condensation aerosol~~ comprises:

- (a) a. a flow through enclosure containing the solid support,
- (b) ~~contained within the enclosure, a metal substrate with a foil-like surface and having a thin coating of alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam composition formed on the substrate surface,~~
- (c) b. a power source that can be activated to heat the substrate to a temperature effective to ~~volatilize the alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam composition contained in said coating~~ solid support, and
- (d) c. ~~inlet and exit portals~~ at least one portal through which air can be drawn through said device by inhalation,

wherein ~~heating the substrate by~~ activation of the power source is effective to produce a vapor of the drug, and drawing air through the enclosure is effective to condense the vapor to form the condensation aerosol. ~~form a alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam vapor containing less than 5% alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam degradation products, and drawing air through said chamber is effective to condense the alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam vapor to form aerosol particles wherein the aerosol has an MMAD of less than 3 microns.~~

14. (currently amended) The kit according to claim 13, wherein the heat for heating the ~~substrate~~ solid support is generated by an exothermic chemical reaction.

15. (currently amended) The kit according to claim 14, wherein ~~said~~ the exothermic chemical reaction is oxidation of combustible materials.

16. (currently amended) The kit according to claim 13, wherein the heat for heating the ~~substrate~~ solid support is generated by passage of current through an electrical resistance element.

17. (currently amended) The kit according to claim 13, wherein ~~said substrate~~ the solid support has a surface area dimensioned to accommodate a therapeutic dose of ~~alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam composition in said coating~~ the drug.

18. (currently amended) The kit according to claim 11, ~~wherein a peak~~ wherein peak plasma drug concentration of alprazolam, estazolam, midazolam, or triazolam is obtained is reached in less than 0.1 hours ~~after delivery of condensation aerosol to the pulmonary system.~~

19. (currently amended) The kit ~~of~~ according to claim 11, further including instructions for use.

20. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the condensation aerosol is characterized by an MMAD of 0.2 to 5 microns.

21. (new) The method according to claim 2, wherein the condensation aerosol is characterized by an MMAD of 0.2 to 3 microns.

22. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the condensation aerosol comprises at least 80% drug by weight.

23. (new) The method according to claim 22, wherein the condensation aerosol comprises at least 95% drug by weight.

24. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the thin layer comprises at least 80% drug by weight.

25. (new) The method according to claim 24, wherein the thin layer comprises at least 95% drug by weight.

26. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the thin layer has a thickness between 0.2 and 4.8 microns.

27. (new) The method according to claim 10, wherein the drug is alprazolam.

28. (new) The method according to claim 10, wherein the drug is estazolam.

29. (new) The method according to claim 10, wherein the drug is midazolam.

30. (new) The method according to claim 10, wherein the drug is triazolam.
31. (new) The kit according to claim 11, wherein the condensation aerosol is characterized by an MMAD of less than 3 microns.
32. (new) The kit according to claim 11, wherein the condensation aerosol is characterized by an MMAD of 0.2 to 5 microns.
33. (new) The kit according to claim 31, wherein the condensation aerosol is characterized by an MMAD of 0.2 to 3 microns.
34. (new) The kit according to claim 11, wherein the condensation aerosol comprises at least 80% drug by weight.
35. (new) The kit according to claim 34, wherein the condensation aerosol comprises at least 95% drug by weight.
36. (new) The kit according to claim 11, wherein the thin layer comprises at least 80% drug by weight.
37. (new) The kit according to claim 36, wherein the thin layer comprises at least 95% drug by weight.
38. (new) The kit according to claim 11, wherein the drug is alprazolam.
39. (new) The kit according to claim 11, wherein the drug is estazolam.
40. (new) The kit according to claim 11, wherein the drug is midazolam.
41. (new) The kit according to claim 11, wherein the drug is triazolam.
42. (new) The kit according to claim 13, wherein the solid support has a surface to mass ratio of greater than 1 cm² per gram.

43. (new) The kit according to claim 13, wherein the solid support has a surface to volume ratio of greater than 100 per meter.

44. (new) The kit according to claim 13, wherein the solid support is a metal foil.

45. (new) The kit according to claim 44, wherein the metal foil has a thickness of less than 0.25 mm.